



St. Stephen's
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

the shield

This Week in Worship

August 3, 2025

"What Can We Take With Us?"
Luke 12:13-21

Rev. Jinx Barber



The Music Box

Our regular Wednesday choir rehearsals are scheduled to start again this coming Wednesday, August 6th. We'll sing at both services on Sunday, August 10th. Rehearsals are from 7 - 8:30 pm on Wednesday evenings in the sanctuary and everyone is invited to come and be a part of the fun!

Help Us Provide Back-to-School Clothes for Our Food and Shelter Family

As part of our ministry to Food and Shelter, St. Stephen's adopts a family in one of the cottages and supports them in meeting special needs.

We are providing back-to-school clothes and shoes for 4 children – ages 4, 5, 7 and 16. To do this we will provide gift cards so the family can choose clothing that best fits their sizes and styles. Our goal is to raise at least \$1,000 to split among the kids.

If you would like to donate, please make a check out to St. Stephen's and designate **Food and Shelter Cottage** in the memo line or through your online gift to the church, with Food and Shelter Cottage in the Notes section.

We are also excited to share that the family will soon be transitioning into an apartment – some time in August. When that happens, we will be reaching for help to collect used furnishings and other household goods to prepare the cottage for a new family.

If you have questions, please call cottage ministry coordinators Brenda Wheelock at 405-620-1305 or Nanci Barthel at 405-323-0703.

WHO ARE YOU?

Rev. Jinx started on Sun-

day, July 6. LET'S CON-

TINUE WEARING OUR NAME TAGS so it be-

comes a habit again!! If you need a new name tag,

there is a sign up sheet in the loggia. We'll print

them up and have them ready for you next week.



Life Happenings
July 27, 2025

We celebrate:

Marci Corey reported on the bell choir going to Epworth Villa last week and performing for their Vespers service. Jim Eller & Jeannie Hines' son Sam is going to Argentina on an amazing adventure. Alyssa Miller is happy to be back in church! Alyssa Miller reported on the challenging yet successful Youth Mission Trip to Detroit. Rod Murrow shares that his favorite month at St. Stephens is July. He enjoys this month's vacation from choir. However, he REALLY enjoys the special music that Marci sets up during the month. He believes St. Stephens has the most talented musicians per capita than any other church in Oklahoma! Brent Smith shared that Kim's son, Alexander, was listed 3rd on a research paper. Vicky Wood shared that Sarah and Courtney Culp-Quinnett are celebrating their 6th wedding anniversary today. Mary Moon is happy to announce her son, Jack Moon, is engaged to Miss Rachel Poteet. Jack also started his new job last week with ASRC. Mary Moon also announced that Lunch Bunch will meet again this Friday, August 1st at Noon. Brenda Wheelock and her dad, Charlie Barnes, are leaving this Thursday for a bucket list item of Charlie's...they are headed to The Grand Canyon! Laurel Wulfekotte's mother, Nan Lacey, is visiting St. Stephens service this morning. Cheryl Frech thanks everyone who helped with the amazing Book Sale.

We pray with concern for:

Jim Eller and Jeannie Hines' son, Sam, as he is off to an amazing adventure in Argentina. Alyssa Miller shared that her father-in-law, Rodney Mathis, has had triple bypass surgery. She and Amber Mathis will be his caretakers for the next few weeks in Muskogee. We lift up Alyssa, Amber and all their family during his recovery. Holly Van Auken lifts up those in Gaza and Ukraine. Becky LeClair is very concerned about news she has heard about ICE picking up our veterans. Bryan McDanel is asking for traveling mercies for Rachel and her girlfriend, Rori, as they are vacationing in Galveston, Texas.

***This Week at
St. Stephen's***

Thursday, July 31st

7:00 DBSA—Room 6

Friday, August 1st

12:00 Lunch Bunch—Loggia

6:30 Living Room NA—Room 11

7:00 Native American Flute Circle

Saturday, August 2nd

8:30 Solutions AA—Room 11

Sunday, August 3rd

8:30 Worship Service—Sanctuary

9:40 Sunday School—Various

10:50 Worship Service—Sanctuary

12:30 Baby Shower for Casey Collins—
Loggia

4:00 Youth—Lyle Hall

Monday, August 4th

6:30 SPRC—Room 12

Tuesday, August 5th

6:30 Living Group NA—Room 11

Wednesday, August 6th

1:30 Sacred Journey—Room 12

7:00 Choir—Sanctuary

Scripture Readers Needed!

We are looking for scripture readers for our first and second services! Please sign up on the sign up sheets found on the table across from the office. Thanks!

Thank You!

Thank you to everyone who brought books, sorted, worked, boxed, delivered, baked cookies, and shopped for books at the 2025 Book Sale! We made about \$1500 for the Little Pantry Fund and for St. Stephen's Music Ministries.

GREAT EXPECTATIONS! Save the Date!

Did you enjoy last year's pledge kickoff potluck dinner? Then you won't want to miss this year's! Mark your calendar for September 28th at 4:00 pm for delicious food, musical entertainment, and Great Expectations for 2026.



**Please help
St. Stephen's
keep our
little food
pantry stocked.
Thank you!**

**The Wesley Kickoff Event
Wednesday, August 20, 7– 10
pm**



Hello everyone!

I am happy to announce that our nursery is now fully staffed! This week we welcomed Ken-nady Aikman, a junior at Norman North High School as a member of the childcare staff. We are so excited to have her and the kids are already charming her! Please make sure you stop by and welcome her to St. Stephens.

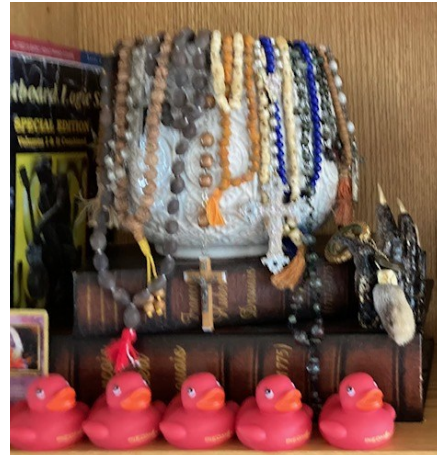
This week we made our first cereal and milk donation to the food pantry from our June Cereal drive. Our kids wanted to put all 52 boxes in at the same time but we decided it was better to space it out. They grudgingly agreed.

Sunday July 27th we will have the final lesson on labyrinths. [Kay Antinoro](#) will be our guest teacher and I am looking forward to having a bunch of kids to learn this wonderful way to connect with God.

Have a blessed week.

Ms. Jenn

Links to Jinx—another group of items in his office. Gotta be a story behind these beads and the rubber duckies too!



HERE'S YOUR CHANCE TO WELCOME REV. JINX BY YOUR OUTWARD AND **VISIBLE** SIGN!!!

We are looking for volunteers to paint the Pastor's office!!! If this is in your wheelhouse and you have time available please see Ron House and he will work with you to set up a time.



PLEASE JOIN US FOR A

Baby Shower Diaper Drive

HONORING
Casey Collins
for the
Infant Crisis Center

August 3, 2025 | 12:30 pm
in Loggia after 2nd service

Items Needed:

- Diapers (any size or brand)
- Wipes (any size or brand)
- Gerber Good Start Gentle formula
- Soy formula (any brand)
- New baby bottles
- New sippy cups
- Baby wash & baby shampoo
- Gas cards, bus passes & gift cards

Donations may be placed in the box at the altar at any time or brought to the shower

Disciple Bible Study

Disciple Bible Study, a small group, 34-week study of the whole Bible will be offered by St. Stephen's beginning in early September. This study requires 30-45 minutes daily to read a focused selection of scriptures, along with information in the participant Study Manual. After 6 days of personal study, the group meets to discuss the week's scriptures, aided by a video by one of several Biblical scholars to enhance the group's understanding. The goal is to transform disciples through Bible study, not just to provide new knowledge of the Bible. This year, a discussion group plans to meet Sundays at 4-6 pm in room 11. For more information, come to an informational meeting at 4 pm on Sunday August 24 or contact Don MacGorman (phone: 405-820-6762; email: don.macgorman@cox.net).



Lunch Bunch will meet on August 1.

The J.D. McCarty Center
Celebrates the opening of their
Applied Behavioral Analysis (ABA) Clinic
On August 8, 2025, at 10 am
Please join us!

FALL FANFARE IS IN THE SUMMER THIS YEAR!!



August 16, 2025
8:45 - 2:30

C Technique Classes
L Reading Sessions
A Spring Ring Preview
S Summit Preview
S Rookie Ringers Track
E "Ask Me Anything"
S Lunch Included

F Before August 1st - \$35
E August 1st and after - \$50
E 6 or more from the same
S organization - \$25 each
Deadline - 5 p.m. on
Friday, August 8

LOCATIONS IN OKLAHOMA AND TEXAS

Norman, OK
St. Stephen's United Methodist Church
1801 W Brooks
Norman, OK 73069

Austin, TX
First Presbyterian Church
8001 Mesa Drive
Austin, TX 78731

visit area9.handbellmusicians.org for more information

Youth Shenanigans!



. Join us at 9:40am and again from 4-6pm in Lyle Hall for evening youth. We are going to jump back into Mini Revolutions and some Extraordinary Leaders.

Incoming 6th graders' swim party is going to be August 10th from 3-6pm at the home of George and Laurel Wulfekotte. I will email parents their address as we get closer to that date. We are thankful to the Wulfekotte's for hosting us again this year and look forward to having a great time of fun and fellowship with them.

If you have a student who will be in grades 6-12 this year and they want to come hang out with the youth and you have questions, please feel free to reach out to Alyssa (youth@ststephensnorman.org).

Needs of the NCRS:

(Contact Brent Smith for more info at bsmith103@cox.net)

Ongoing Needs:

1. Housing Chair—coordinate housing searches, etc.
2. Drivers—take family member to Dr. appts, etc.
3. Employment coach—guide job changes



St. Stephen's United Methodist Church
405-321-4988
1801 W. Brooks, Norman OK 73069
www.ststephensnorman.org
office@ststephensnorman.org
Church services Sunday Morning 8:30 am
and 10:50 am Sunday School at 9:40 am

